

## Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 BEIRUT 02121 141325Z  
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W  
-----012332 141329Z /53

O R 141245Z APR 78  
FM AMEMBASSY BEIRUT  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7620  
INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN  
AMEMBASSY CAIRO  
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS  
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV  
AMCONSUL JERUSALEM

S E C R E T BEIRUT 2121

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: PINS, PINT, LE  
SUBJ: BEIRUT CEASE-FIRE: DISCUSSION WITH GEMAYELS

1. CALLED ON SHEIKH PIERRE AND BASHIR GEMAYEL AT KATAEB HEADQUARTERS 1100 LOCAL APRIL 14. PRESUMING ON MY STANDING ORDERS, TOLD THEM I WAS UNDER INSTRUCTION TO SEE THEM AS WELL AS CHAMOUNS AND URGE RESTRAINT IN THIS VERY DELICATE AND DANGEROUS PHASE. SAID THAT IN OUR VIEW FUTURE OF LEBANON WAS HANGING IN BALANCE AND IT ABSOLUTELY NECESSARY THAT EVERYBODY DO HIS BEST TO PERMIT MAINTENANCE OF CEASE-FIRE. SAID I WAS AWARE OF INABILITY TO CONTROL ALL OF THE ARMED ELEMENTS IN AIN AR-RUMMANEH BUT I THOUGHT THEY WOULD BE BETTER OFF COOPERATING WITH SYRIANS THAN OPPOSING THEM. SYRIANS UNFORTUNATELY WERE ONLY FORCE OF ORDER AVAILABLE TODAY. I HAD ALSO NOTED THERE WAS GOOD DEAL OF TALK ABOUT INTERNATIONALIZING PROBLEM. THIS WAS UNREALISTIC. I ASSUMED THEY HAD NOTED REMARKS OF DE GUIRINGAUD YESTERDAY ABOUT FRENCH UNWILLINGNESS TO EXPAND COMMITMENT IN LEBANON AND I WOULD NOT THINK INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 BEIRUT 02121 141325Z

WOULD BE PREPARED TAKE OVER TASK FROM SYRIANS. IT WOULD REQUIRE 50,000 TROOPS AND UN WAS HAVING DIFFICULTY EVEN GETTING 6000 FOR THE SOUTH.

2. SHEIKH PIERRE SAID KATAEB WAS DOING ITS UTMOST TO KEEP SITUATION UNDER CONTROL. HE MADE HIS FAMILIAR SPIEL ABOUT THE ROLE OF INTERNATIONAL COMMUNISM AND SAID THAT

WHAT WAS NEEDED WAS AN IMPARTIAL FORCE WHICH WOULD TAKE STRONG MEASURES AGAINST BOTH SIDES--NOT JUST ONE. A SITUATION HAD DEVELOPED IN WHICH THE SYRIANS WERE PUNISHING THE PEOPLE OF AIN AR-RUMMANEH ONLY AND NOT THE OTHER SIDE.

3. SHEIKH PIERRE COMMENTED THAT THE SYRIANS HAD MOVED INTO HIGH-RISE BUILDINGS IN ASHRAFIYAH FROM WHICH THEY DOMINATED THE QUARTER AS WELL AS SOUTHERN SUBURBS. THEY HAD FIRED AT AIN-AR-RUMMANEH FROM THE RIZK TOWER (HIGHEST BUILDING IN ASHRAFIYAH). THE KATAEB HAD GOT IN TOUCH WITH SYRIANS IMMEDIATELY AND TOLD THEM FOR THE LOVE OF GOD TO DO NO MORE OF THAT OR THE FIRING WOULD SPREAD TO ASHRAFIYAH. SYRIANS HAD COMPLIED. HE THOUGHT THAT THE CEASE-FIRE WOULD LAST AT LEAST A FEW DAYS, BECAUSE EVERYONE WAS EXHAUSTED IF FOR NO OTHER REASON, AND IN THE MEANTIME WE SHOULD THINK ABOUT A GREATER COMMITMENT OF LEBANESE FORCES TO THE SECURITY PROBLEM. IF FIGHTING RESUMED CONSEQUENCES WOULD BE VERY SERIOUS.

4. I ASKED HIM IF HE THOUGHT THE LEBANESE ARMY COULD BE DEPLOYED IN BEIRUT AND NOT BE FIRED UPON. HE SAID HE THOUGHT THEY COULD BE MIXED WITH THE ADF AND THAT THESE FORCES COULD CONTROL THE SITUATION IF THEY DEALT IMPARTIALLY WITH VIOLATORS OF THE TRUCE.

5. COMMENT: I DID NOT GET FROM SHEIKH PIERRE THE  
SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 03 BEIRUT 02121 141325Z

LECTURE I EXPECTED TO GET ON THE ROLE OF THE AMERICANS AND THEIR SUPPORT FOR THE SARKIS GOVERNMENT. HE MADE IT QUITE CLEAR, HOWEVER, THAT HE HAS LITTLE CONFIDENCE IN THE REGIME. HE CLEARLY SEES THE PRESENT CONJUNCTURE AS VERY DANGEROUS. BASHIR SAID ALMOST NOTHING, EXCEPT THAT HE WAS DOING HIS BEST TO KEEP THINGS QUIET. PARKER

SECRET

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** Z  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** ARMISTICE, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS, POLITICAL SITUATION  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 14 apr 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1978BEIRUT02121  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D780160-1012  
**Format:** TEL  
**From:** BEIRUT  
**Handling Restrictions:**  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1978/newtext/t19780458/aaaabwyh.tel  
**Line Count:** 100  
**Litigation Code IDs:**  
**Litigation Codes:**  
**Litigation History:**  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Message ID:** bc54a1b0-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Office:** ACTION SS  
**Original Classification:** SECRET  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** ONLY  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** SECRET  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** ONLY  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Retention:** 0  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 29 jun 2005  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 2971241  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** BEIRUT CEASE-FIRE: DISCUSSION WITH GEMAYELS  
**TAGS:** PINS, PINT, LE, (GEMAYEL, BASHIR), (PARKER, RICHARD B)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**vdkgvwkey:** odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/bc54a1b0-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
20 Mar 2014  
**Markings:** Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014